

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



28 FEB 2005

(43) International Publication Date
11 March 2004 (11.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/021305 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: G08G 1/0968 (74) Agent: HILL, Justin, John; McDermott, Will & Emery, 7 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 3AR (GB).
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/003702 (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 27 August 2003 (27.08.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
0220062.4 29 August 2002 (29.08.2002) GB
0308188.2 9 April 2003 (09.04.2003) GB
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): ITIS HOLDINGS PLC [GB/GB]; The Warrent House, 1 High Street, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 1PZ (GB).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): BURR, Jonathan, Charles [GB/GB]; 15 Leicester Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 9QA (GB). GATES, Gary [GB/GB]; 12 Dale Gardens, Heswall, Wirral CH60 6TQ (GB). SLATER, Alan, George [GB/GB]; 6 Oklands, Hillside, Heaton, Bolton BL1 5DZ (GB).
- Published:
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING TRAFFIC INFORMATION

(57) **Abstract:** A system and method for providing traffic information is disclosed. In one embodiment, a method comprises, for each segment of a route between an origin point and a destination point, performing a time-dependent journey planning calculation, based on a time during which a vehicle is predicted to be travelling through the segment, to produce a segment result; forming at least one route result, the at least one route result being formed based on a plurality of the segment results; storing the at least one route result in a digital storage means; and accessing the rapid access means for use in responding to a user request for traffic information for a journey between the origin point and the destination point. In another embodiment, a method comprises pre-determining at least a portion of a recommended most economic route between an origin point and a destination point; storing the pre-determined portion of the recommended most economic route in a rapid access means in a digital storage means; and accessing the rapid access means for use in responding to a user request for traffic information for a journey between the origin point and the destination point. In another embodiment, a method comprises determining, with reference to a first network of geographical boundaries and a second network of digital map nodes, a recommended most economic route between an origin point and a destination point; and transmitting the recommended most economic route to a user.